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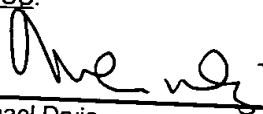
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Cluster- and descriptor-based recommender systems are disclosed which can, for example, scale to voluminous data. The data is generally organized into records and items. In one embodiment, a method first consolidates the data into groups, such as

5 clusters or descriptors. The method determines a predicted vote for a particular record and a particular item, using a similarity scoring approach, such as a likelihood similarity approach, or a correlation similarity approach, based on the groups. The predicted vote can then be output.

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